

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BONN 03544 01 OF 02 270210Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
-----270215 064276 /70
O 270204Z FEB 77 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5975

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 03544

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CASC, UG, GW
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO AMIN

REF: STATE 43634

1. AMBASSADOR ELLERKMANN BELIEVES THAT PRESIDENTIAL
MESSAGE TRANSMITTED REFTEL WOULD BE COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE
AS PRESENTLY WRITTEN. HIS RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW:

BEGIN TEXT:

"WITH ALL DUE RESPECT THIS EMBASSY WISHES TO
EXPRESS RESERVATIONS ON MESSAGE THIS EMBASSY
WAS REQUESTED TO DELIVER TO PRESIDENT AMIN.
IT IS STRONGLY FELT THAT SUGGESTED MESSAGE
WILL NOT SERVE ITS PURPOSE, BUT PROVE COUNTER-
PRODUCTIVE AND WILL BE REJECTED BY AMIN:

1. FORM OF TELEGRAM SHOULD BE IN CONFORMITY
WITH OTHER MESSAGES TO AMIN. THE ADDRESS SHOULD
READ:

(A) AL-HAJJI FIELD MARSHAL DR. IDI AMIN
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DADA, VC, DSO, MC, LIFE PRESIDENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA.

(B) AMIN SHOULD BE ADDRESSED WITH 'YOUR
EXCELLENCY'.

(C) MESSAGE SHOULD END WITH 'ACCEPT YOUR

EXCELLENCY THE ASSURANCES OF MY
HIGHEST ESTEEM'.

2. AS TO CONTENTS OF MESSAGE IT IS FELT
THAT MESSAGE MIGHT BE REGARDED AS TOO SHORT
AND UNFRIENDLY. IT IS SUGGESTED TO AT LEAST
TO REFER TO SOME OF THE DETAILS OF YESTERDAY'S
ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPOKESMAN OF PRESIDENT'S
OFFICE AS TRANSMITTED BY THIS EMBASSY IN TELE-
GRAM NO. 79 OF 26 FEBRUARY, 1977, REFERENCE
NO. 209.53, (BONN TELEGRAM REPORTING
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENT) IN WHICH
AMIN ASSURES AMERICANS OF THEIR SECURITY,
WISHES TO THANK THEM FOR THEIR GOOD SERVICES
TO UGANDA ETC. ALTOGETHER THE MESSAGE
SHOULD CONSIST OF MORE THAN ONLY TWO SENTENCES.

3. FURTHERMORE, THE OFFER TO PROVIDE
A COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT TO FLY AMERICANS OUT,
SHOULD NOT BE SO OBVIOUSLY ONLY PURPOSE OF
MESSAGE. AMIN IS PROUD OF OWNING TWO
AMERICAN PLANES, ONE C-130 AND ONE BOEING 707,
BOTH FLOWN BY AMERICAN CREWS, WHICH ALSO

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
-----270215 064275 /70

O 270204Z FEB 77 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5976

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 03544

EXDIS

COULD FLY AMERICANS OUT OF THE COUNTRY. IF
OFFER TO PROVIDE COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT IS
MENTIONED IN MESSAGE AT ALL, THIS SHOULD
BE MADE INCIDENTALLY.

4. IT SHOULD BE MENTIONED THAT AMIN MIGHT BE SUSPICIOUS OF ANY FOREIGN PLANES TO FLY AMERICANS OUT, BECAUSE HE MIGHT FEAR A COVER-UP FOR ANOTHER INVASION AT ENTEBBE LIKE ISRAELI RAID LAST JULY.

5. I AM CONVINCED THAT MESSAGE WITH PRESENT TEXT WILL BE REJECTED AND RIDICULED, AS HAPPENED WITH KISSINGER'S MESSAGE LAST YEAR BY AMIN IMMEDIATELY. IN CASE WORDING OF MESSAGE CANNOT BE CHANGED, THEN IT IS SUGGESTED THAT NO MESSAGE IS DELIVERED AT ALL.

6. MESSAGE WAS RECEIVED BY EMBASSY ON 27.02.1977, 00.20 LOCAL TIME." ELLERKMANN"

2. AFRICAN EXPERTS IN FONOFF HERE AGREE WITH SUBSTANCE OF ELLERKMANN'S RECOMMENDATIONS. THEY POINT OUT, SECRET

SECRET

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HOWEVER, THAT IF OUR MESSAGE IS REDRAFTED AND TAKES ON TOO FRIENDLY A TONE AMIN WILL PUBLISH IT.

3. IF THE DEPARTMENT WISHES THE MESSAGE DELIVERED AS ORIGINALLY DRAFTED WE RECOMMEND A BRIEF INSTRUCTION TO ELLERKMANN THANKING HIM FOR HIS RECOMMENDATIONS AND ASKING HIM TO DELIVER THE MESSAGE AS RECEIVED ASAP. STOESEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, CITIZEN PROTECTION, FOREIGN INTEREST REPRESENTATION, AMENDMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770068-0018
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977025/aaaaaedd.tel
Line Count: 151
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dde4f5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
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Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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SAS ID: 3340878
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO AMIN
TAGS: PFOR, CASC, PPDC, UG, GE, (CARTER, JIMMY), (AMIN DADA, IDI), (ELLERKMANN, RICHARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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